Park St. Apr. 26 - 55.

Dearest Mrs Chapman,

Much as we are longing to see you & great as will be our disappointment if you leave our Island without affording us a peep at you, I fear our character is slender if it rests upon my success in proving Bristol to lie en route from London to Paris. The map of England would at once stultify my most elaborately constructed arguments, so I had better state plainly the unpleasant fact that we are 120 miles further removed from the French metropolis than London. Our ~~only~~ ordinary route is crossing to Calais from Folkstone or Dover, & going thro' London is the most expeditious way of reaching those towns. So unless you can take Bristol by making a circuit in your journey to London, or spare time to come down from London

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on purpose I fear our present oyster-like
destination will be an insuperable
barrier to our meeting you. I am exceedingly
sorry, to think this, for, apart from the personal
delight at seeing you & hearing of our beloved
friends whom you have left in France,
there is much pertaining to the Cause
that I have felt very anxious to talk
over with you. My tutoring in the
school of resignation has, however,
hardened me to all these losses of hoped
for props. I am fast becoming content
to let the Cause take care of itself, & feel
when people apply to me for information
& throw the burden of unclogging the locked
wheels of the A.S. machine on me, that it
is no business of mine, & that things must set-
tle or unsettle themselves without my
acting the part of medium or pilot. If our
dear friend Mr Pillsbury had his way
mapped out for him by some competent
& sympathizing adviser I should make
my mind perfectly easy about all thereof;

but he anxiously consults me about his movements & I am not so circumstanced as to be able to shape them for him, to write to friends in different towns so as to feel the ground & pave his way. He is not one who can force a passage for himself, he is far too diffident. I think he wishes to visit the continent before returning to America, but has not courage to start upon a solitary tour. His health needs care & rest, there is at times a morbid sensitiveness about him which indicates his unfitness for warfare. His Boston correspondents quote me as urging his prolonged sojourn in this country, but rather more strongly than my letters justify, for whenever the subject has been mooted, I have felt that the responsibility of persuading him to delay his return home was too much for me to incur, & in testifying to his good influence amongst us, & stating our crying need of an American representative of the

Abolts being at hand to keep us alive - I have carefully avoided blending the two questions, or hazarding an opinion as to the propriety of Mr Pillsbury's staying here to help us instead of going back to his family & native land. I only maintain that it is very delightful to have him, & that we do want some of very much.

My Father sends you his love; he will be very sorry indeed not to see you. Should "way open" remember your room is ready for you at 47 Parkst, & a loving welcome. My Aunt would need no prefix to come up for a few hours if there were a chance of seeing you. Will you give our affectionate regards to Miss Marlineau & Believe me ever Your affectt

Mary A. Estlin.

I sent a parcel of tracts to Paris for you a fortnight ago by Mrs G. Adams. You must let us hear something about dear Miss Weston, & Emma & their patients. We have been reading Mrs Laugdo's letters in the Liberator, & I do like that dear old Miss Esther Sturge! Dr & Mrs Nichol have just been paying us a visit. They are full of warmth & enlightened zeal for the Cause.

Mss. A. 7.3.68